

# DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE DELAWARE HARNESS RACING COMMISSION 2320 SOUTH DUPONT HIGHWAY DOVER, DELAWARE 19901

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# Minutes of the Meeting Held October 12, 2010

The Delaware Harness Racing Commission met for a meeting at the Delaware State Fairgrounds, Exhibit Hall Boardroom, Harrington, Delaware, at 10:15 AM

#### **Commission Members Present**

Beth Steele, Chairman	George P. Staats, Commissioner
Robert B. Brown, Commissioner	Larry Talley, Commissioner
Patt Wagner, Commissioner	

#### Others Present

Andrew Kerber, Deputy Attorney General	Karen Craft, Facilities Manager, HRI
Charles Lockhart, VP of Horse Racing, D. Downs	Judy Davis-Wilson, Executive Director, DSBF
John Hensley, Sr. Dir., Horse Racing, D. Downs	Hugh Gallagher, DHRC Administrator of Racing
Salvatore DiMario, Executive Director, DSOA	Brian J. Manges, DHRC Chief Inspector
James Boese, General Manager, HRI	Matt Sparacino, Assist. General Mgr., HRI
Scott Egger, Presiding Judge	Jay Baldwin, D.V.M., Lasix Veterinarian
Annie Renzetti, D.M.V.	Jo-Ann Price, DHRC Paralegal
Juli LaBadia, Wilcox & Fetzer Ct. Reporter	

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

At 10:24 AM, Chairman Steele called the public session of the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

Licenses Signed The licenses for 2011 for Dover Downs and Harrington Raceway were signed by the Commissioners.

#### Walk through at Dover Downs

Chairman Steele asked for two Commissioners to do a walk through inspection of Dover Downs sometime in the next week or two (before the start of the Dover meet.) Commissioners Talley and Brown agreed to do this.

Renew DHRC Licenses
Chairman Steele also
announced that her license
has expired and that Mr.
Manges would renew any
other Commissioners' during
the break. (This was done.)

## NEW BUSINESS Reports

Administrator's Mr. Gallagher reported that he and Mr. DiMario met to review the Pennsylvania steroids rule

which is currently in place. Delaware has waited for the science to be in good order. Another meeting will be Dr. Whiston held. contacted to make sure that policies are the same as when worked there. he reasonable withdrawal time and any necessary changes will be brought to the next Rules Committee meeting.

Presiding Judge's No report is needed; all is well.

Chief Veterinarian's Dr. Renzetti had a conflict today, but reported to the Administrator that all is well; that the fitness of horses at Harrington Raceway (HRI) is good. Mr. Gallagher added that the Harrington's track surface is one of the best half mile racing surfaces in the business; this is proven, as the incidents of lameness are down. He complemented the HRI track crews for keeping a good racing surface.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Brown moved to approve the September 14, 2010 DHRC Minutes as written, Commissioner Staats seconded; the Motion passed unanimously. The Executive Session portion of the Minutes will be presented for approval at a later meeting.

#### **APPROVAL OF EMPLOYEES**

As to the proposed list of employees for the upcoming Dover Downs meet, Mr. Gallagher explained that last year between the Paddock Judge and Identifier we had three people, giving them four days each. Mr. Truitt has been filling in, has been to the Louisville school, and we would like to approach that he has reasonable working opportunities; he does have some horses, but we will speak to him about that. Commissioner Brown was concerned; would there be enough people to get the job done. Mr. Gallagher assured him that this list is consistent with current staff, and he believes it is sufficient. Commissioner Staats moved approve the list. Commissioner Talley seconded and the Motion passed unanimously.

Dover Downs Race Dates The meet begins on October 31st. They have negotiated with horsemen to add a 16th race in March and April. They will be dropping one day and racing less races. Chairman Steele asked if that creates an employment issue; Gallagher responded that an additional race in the past had meant giving additional compensation. Mr. Lockhart assured the Commission that they would be reasonable and would accommodate that, as only one race was added. Mr. Hensley commented that thev wouldn't know if any time would be added until they see the Post time schedule. Mr. Lockhart said this would depend, as they may lose some winter dates, as well.

### PUBLIC HEARING - DHRC RULE 7.6.6.7 (RECALL RULE)

The order of business was changed to accommodate the court reporter's schedule. At 10:26 AM, the record was opened; Mr. Kerber read the proposed changes into the record, and the court reporter took verbatim testimony. No public comments were made, as this rule passed through the DHRC Rules Committee. Commissioner Brown moved accept the proposed change; Commissioner Talley seconded, and the Motion carried unanimously. The record was closed at 10:30 AM.

# **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Dover Downs Meet Mr. Lockhart offered his clarification that the Dover Downs meet will begin October 31st, and that days had been negotiated with the horsemen. Some minor modifications will be made to the number of races. The horsemen and the public will be given adequate notice, and any Casual / Seasonal employees will be compensated for extra races worked on these days.

### <u>UPCOMING MEETINGS</u> *DHRC*:

11/09/10 - Dover Downs 12/14/10 - Dover Downs *Rules:* 

10/18/10 - (Mon.) Dept of Ag.

# ADJOURNMENT EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 10:38 AM, having no further business, Chairman Steele moved to adjourn to Executive Session. Commissioner Staats seconded, and the Motion passed unanimously. other public business will be discussed after the resumption of public session at the close of the Executive Session.

# ADJOURNMENT PUBLIC SESSION

At 12:10 PM, having no further business, Commissioner Brown moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Staats seconded, and the motion was unanimous.

